

PATENT
674543-2001.2

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks and enclosures herein.

During the March 14, 2006 telephonic interview, the Examiner stated that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 102 were overcome as a result of the discussions in the March 1, 2006 personal interview and the March 2, 2006 Declaration and Supplemental Response. Accordingly, the only outstanding rejection is the provisional rejection of claims 14-17 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claim 15 of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/061,044 and claims 14-17 of copending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/080,876. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Although Applicants maintain that the claims of the present application are patentable over USSN 10/061,044 and USSN 10/080,876, in order to further prosecution enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer to both of USSN 10/061,044 and USSN 10/080,876. Therefore, the rejections are now moot.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejections is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

If any issue remains as an impediment to allowance, we respectfully request a personal interview with the Examiner, his SPE, and a Group 1600 Practice Specialist, prior to issuance of any paper other than a Notice of Allowance; and, pursuant to this request the Examiner is also invited to contact the undersigned to arrange a mutually convenient time and manner for such an interview.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks and enclosures herewith, the application is now in condition for allowance. Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections, and prompt issuance of a notice of allowance, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: Thomas J. Kowalski by Angela M. Collison
Thomas J. Kowalski
Reg. No. 32,147
Angela M. Collison
Reg. No. 51,107
(212) 588-0800